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Congressman John Olver has represented the First Congressional District of Massachusetts since 1991.

Congressman Olver is a former chemistry professor. Having earned a Ph.D. in chemistry from M.I.T., he served on the faculty at UMass – Amherst in the 1960s.

Drawn into politics in 1969, John began an over-two-decade career in the Massachusetts State House, most of that time in the State Senate.

In Congress, Congressman Olver became an “appropriator” and currently serves as the Chairman of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development. He has focused on energy conservation and efficiency in transportation and housing, as well as economic development – both nationally and in western and central Massachusetts.

Congressman Olver is noted for applying his science background and an attention to numerical detail when legislating. There are also many preservation, safety net, education and infrastructure projects in Massachusetts that are a result of his work in Congress.

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